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31 March 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR	]	
SUBJECT:	phlet Drop Opera Albania	tions Bulgaria
REFERENCES:	Message to Out No. 92994 Message from In No. 32061	dtd 29 March 51,

- l. I want to call your attention to some confusion which appears to have developed on the issue of drep operations as between this office and also to suggest certain points which should be made in a follow-up message to
- 2. In the first place, I think it was unfortunate to have combined the notification of suspension of drop operations with the other material contained in the reference a cable. In this context the suspension notification appears to be much more in the nature of a reprimand than was intended by either the Director or ourselves. It is clear from the tone and content of the reference b reply that the suspension notification was taken in this sense by/ Moreover, the (reply is a hasty and ill-considered message in certain other respects. We said nothing about British concern in our message and it is not British concern that has influenced the decision to direct a temporary suspension of operations of this kind. Nor does this suspension direction state or imply that there will not be a resumption of these drop operations. We need no lectures of the kind contained in paragraphs 4 and 5, and I am afraid that this is an altogether too typical ( eaction.
- 3. Pending final consideration of the various complicated policy and operational aspects of this problem (which we should press with both State and the Director's office), I believe you should get a message off to the field making the following points:
  - a. The suspension notification was not intended as a slap on the wrist as we are fully aware of the difficulties of the flights under local operating conditions.
  - b. The reasons for the suspension notification are various and apply to Albania as well as Bulgaria.

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- c. The principal reasons underlying this instruction are:
- (1) The necessity for a review for important policy reasons; and
- (2) To assemble and check all the details concerning this one operation which has had highly unfavorable repercussions in both State and Defense.
- d. We are not concerned with any British views but the repeated strong protests and warnings from Belgrade regarding both the Bulgarian incident and the Albanian operations are deemed worthy of the most careful consideration.
- e. We have every reason to believe that resumption of operations of this kind will be authorized in the near future but probably in a slightly modified form.

ADPC/FGW/mlr